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Assembly California Legislature



CHUCK DeVORE
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTIETH DISTRICT

FISCAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Dear Taxpayer:

As a matter of principle, taxpayers should know exactly where their tax dollars are spent. It's your money, after all.

From the time you wake up until the time you go to bed, you're paying into the government's coffers. Telephone tax. Electricity tax. Gas tax. Cell phone tax. Income tax. Property tax. Sales tax.

The taxes never end. In fact, experts say that it takes the average American until mid-April to finally earn enough money to pay off the total tax bill for the year. That's when you finally start working for yourself, instead of the tax collector.

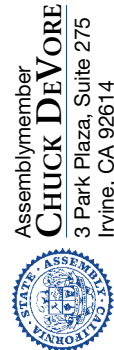
So, where does all this money go?

This year, California will spend \$131 billion on a wide variety of programs, from education and prisons to welfare checks and freeways.

Media reports on the state budget often create more confusion than understanding, making it difficult for taxpayers to follow the money trail. The charts and tables in this brochure show you exactly where your tax dollars are spent. The graphics also illustrate vividly how the previous governor's spending led California to the brink of fiscal ruin.

You have received this summary of the state government's financial operations because, as a taxpayer, you are entitled to it. Please contact this office if you would like additional copies to share with your friends and neighbors.

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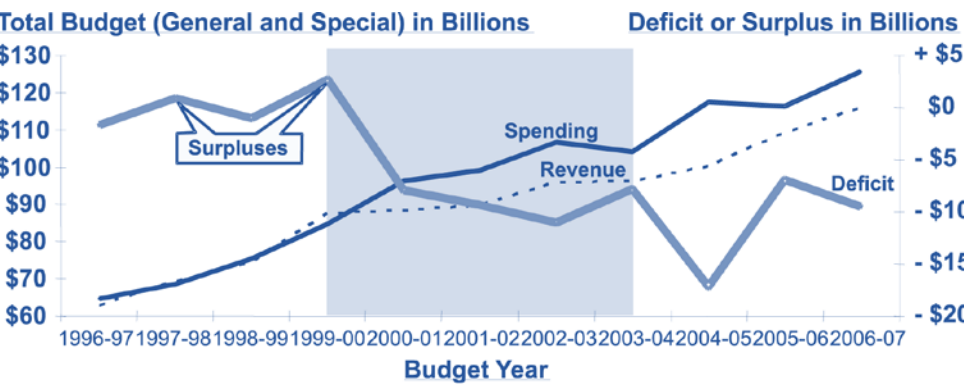
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Look Inside for Information About Sacramento's Spending Addiction

2006 CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT SPENDING REPORT: Learn How Your Tax Dollars Are Being Spent in Sacramento!



CALIFORNIA'S HIGH TAX BURDEN



California's deficit is now just under \$10 billion, less than the \$16 billion in 2005, but still too high because of rapid increases in government spending

REDUCE CALIFORNIA'S HIGH TAX BURDEN

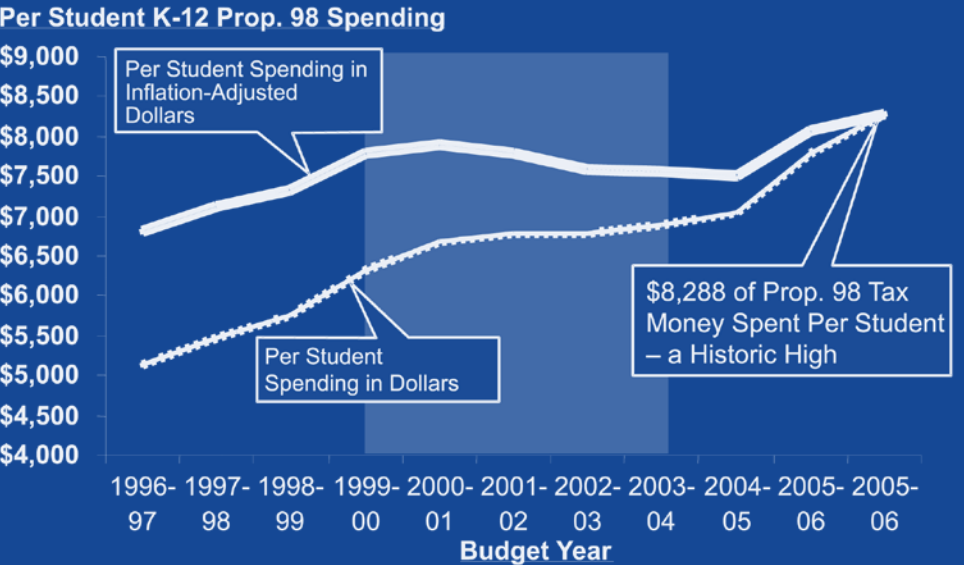
The average Californian pays more than \$3,000 per year in state taxes. According to the nonpartisan Tax Foundation, California ranks 40th in the State Business Tax Climate Index. As a result of California's high tax burden, small businesses are leaving the state for better economic climates in other states and countries.

STOP YOUR TAX DOLLARS FROM BEING WASTED IN SACRAMENTO

Every year, the State Legislature approves billions of dollars in spending for waste, fraud and abuse. Here are just a few examples of waste in this year's budget:

- Missing State Vehicles: The Department of General Services cannot find more than 18,000 state vehicles, but it continues to purchase new vehicles.
- Duplicative Government Agencies: More than a dozen state agencies collect state taxes, including two separate, massive bureaucracies at the Franchise Tax Board and the Board of Equalization.
- Lavish Benefits for Government Executives: State employees are allowed to live on state-owned properties without paying fair market rent, costing the state millions every year.

HISTORIC SPENDING ON EDUCATION



Per student Prop. 98 spending on K-12 is now the highest in California history

CALIFORNIA'S EDUCATION BUDGET: HIGHEST IN THE NATION

California spends more money on education than any other state in the nation's history. This year, California will spend more than \$60 billion on education, averaging \$8,288 in state per pupil spending. California's teachers are among the highest paid in the country.

CALIFORNIA MUST SPEND WITHIN ITS MEANS

California must spend within its means. The 2006-2007 state budget spends more than \$131 billion; California cannot continue to spend more money than the state takes in each year. Borrowing and deficits are fiscally irresponsible and only leave the debt for future generations. California's children deserve better than to inherit a state government with "credit cards" charged to the max.

PROTECTING CALIFORNIA'S TAXPAYERS: REDUCE GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND KEEP TAXES LOW

- ☐ California should lower taxes.
- ☐ California should continue to protect Proposition 13.
- ☐ California should reduce government spending by eliminating wasteful programs and consolidating duplicative bureaucracies.

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